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LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KENYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose the text of the communiqué of the Sixth Regional Summit on the Burundi Conflict, held in Kampala on 21 February 1998.

Please circulate the text of this communiqué as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Njuguna M. MAHUGU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Communiqué of the Sixth Regional Summit on the Burundi Conflict, held at Kampala on 21 February 1998

1. At the invitation of President Yoweri K. Museveni of the Republic of Uganda, the Sixth Regional Summit on Burundi convened in Kampala on 21 February 1998, and was attended by President Daniel arap Moi of the Republic of Kenya; President Frederick Chiluba of the Republic of Zambia; President Benjamin Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania; Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; Mr. Stanislaus I. G. Mudenge, Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe, representing Mr. Robert G. Mugabe, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU); Mr. Anastase Gasana, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Rwanda, representing President Pasteur Bizimungu of the Republic of Rwanda; and Mr. Bizima Karaha, Foreign Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, representing President Laurent-Desiré Kabila of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

2. Also participating were the facilitator of the Burundi peace process, Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, and the OAU Secretary-General, Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim.

3. At the invitation of the regional leaders, Major Pierre Buyoya briefed the Summit on the political situation in Burundi and on the various steps that he has been taking in the country since the Dar es Salaam Summit of 3 to 4 September 1997. More specifically, he explained the various measures taken or intended to be taken in the context of the decisions of the Dar es Salaam Summit.

4. The Regional Summit reviewed the situation in Burundi and was concerned that, despite all the efforts deployed for a negotiated solution to the conflict in Burundi, no significant progress had been achieved. The Regional Summit reaffirmed that there is no alternative to a negotiated solution to the crisis in Burundi and stressed that such negotiation should lead to the attainment of a new dispensation based on the principles of democracy and security for all.

5. The Summit underscored the importance of the All Party Talks in Arusha in order to facilitate the return to constitutionalism, democracy, peace and security. In this respect the Summit urged the regime and all the parties in Burundi to genuinely respond to the Arusha peace process.

6. On the issue of sanctions, the leaders agree to review them as soon as the conditions stipulated in the Dar es Salaam Summit have been adhered to and the All Party Talks under the auspices of the facilitator of the Burundi peace process, Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, have commenced.

7. The regional leaders reaffirmed their determination to implement all the decisions taken, including those related to sanctions, with the objective of achieving a lasting solution to the conflict in Burundi.

8. The regional leaders expressed appreciation to President Yoweri K. Museveni, the Government and people of Uganda for the warm reception and hospitality extended to them and their delegations.